

House File 2042 - Introduced

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BY HEARTSILL

(COMPANION TO SF 2025 BY
SINCLAIR)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the opening of certain adoption records.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 600.16A, subsection 4, Code 2014, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 4. An adopted person ~~whose adoption became final prior to~~
4 ~~July 4, 1941, and whose adoption record was not required to~~
5 ~~be sealed at the time when the adoption record was completed,~~
6 ~~shall not be required to show good cause~~ may file an affidavit
7 for an order opening the adoption record under this ~~subsection,~~
8 ~~provided that the juvenile court or court shall consider any~~
9 ~~affidavit filed under this subsection~~ section, without being
10 required to show good cause, if the adoption became final at
11 least forty years prior to the filing of the affidavit.

12 EXPLANATION

13 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
14 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

15 This bill amends a provision regarding the opening of
16 adoption records. The current provision allows that if an
17 adopted person's adoption became final prior to July 4, 1941,
18 and the adoption record was not required to be sealed at the
19 time when the adoption record was completed, the person is not
20 required to show good cause for an order opening the adoption
21 record provided the juvenile court or court considers any
22 affidavit filed regarding the opening of the adoption record.
23 The bill instead provides that an adopted person may file an
24 affidavit for an order opening the adoption record, without
25 being required to show good cause, if the adoption became final
26 at least 40 years prior to the filing of the affidavit.